



THE GREEN SCENE

Ted Watkins Park Receives a Makeover

Nearly 4,000 people attended the festive grand reopening ceremony and activities at Ted Watkins Memorial Park this summer. The ceremony celebrated \$6.8 million in renovations to the 27-acre park. Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas joined Director Russ Guiney and Chief Deputy Director John Wicker in the ribbon-cutting and special guests included Olympic Medalist Rafer Johnson, Tim Watkins (son of the late Ted Watkins), Assemblyman Warren T. Furutani and Los Angeles County Arts Commission Director Laura Zucker.

Families and children enjoyed event activities and the new amenities. A parade style entrance and performances by community drum and dance team, Johnny and the Hi-Steppers kicked off the ceremony, followed by a formal ceremony and ribbon cutting. Attendees also enjoyed watching a softball game between the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and a South Community Softball team, along with free food giveaways, free health screenings, farmer's market, live concerts, arts and crafts, face painting, soccer and skate boarding exhibitions, and free food and beverages.

In addition, several youth were able to leave their mark on the park by imprinting their hands and signatures into the concrete surrounding the flagpole. Ted Watkins Park has been serving the community for more than 70 years. Improvements to the park included a new fitness zone, walking path, Skate Park, picnic area and comfort stations, restrooms, landscaping, irrigation system, and lighted multipurpose field and softball fields.

One of the oldest parks in Los Angeles County, the park is home to the Watts Summer Festival, Parks After Dark and the historical Promenade of Prominence Walk of Fame.

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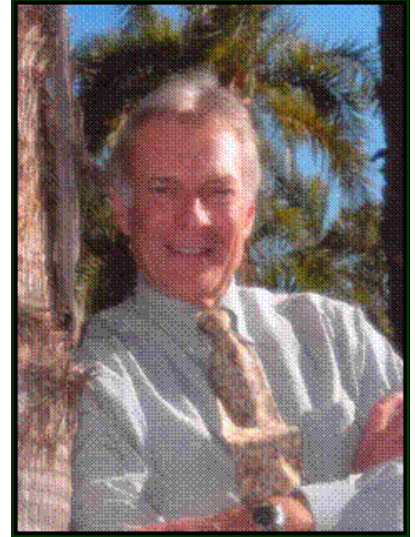
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Greetings from the Director

As you look through this edition of the Green Scene, you will notice something unique. This August edition of the Green Scene is special because of the many spotlights on our employees, from the recipients of the prestigious National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) Awards to the Service Anniversaries of our dedicated employees, to the winners of the Employee of the Month Awards. It's always wonderful to take a broad, cross-spectrum look at our hard-working and committed employees, some of whom have been with us for more than 35 years! Thank you all for setting the example of good public service and your devotion to Parks and Recreation. Congratulations to the winners of the NACPRO Awards for keeping our Department and our work at the forefront of the Parks and Recreation industry.

As the mercury continues to rise, let's remember that summer isn't over yet, so let's continue to provide great customer service to our park patrons with all the great activities and events still to come and let them know that Los Angeles County Parks are still the place to be all year long!



Russ Guiney, Director

**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

Where in the Department Is this?



Answer on page 12

Mayor Michael D. Antonovich Honors National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) Award Winners!

The National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) winners were honored by Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich at the July 26, 2011 Board of Supervisor's meeting for their outstanding work and contributions in the field of Parks and Recreation.

The NACPRO winners included: The Parks After Dark (PAD) Program for Excellent Parks and Recreation Program; Placerita Canyon Nature Center for Environmental/Conservation; Cerritos Park Wheelchair Basketball Program Special Awards: Removing Barriers Initiative and Lori Bennett for the Individual Professional Fellow Award. Congratulations to all of the winners for their exemplary work and contributions to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Parks After Dark Program for Excellent Parks and Recreation Program



L- R: John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation; Mary Anderson, Public Library; Shamika Ossey, RN, Public Health; Aurora Lopez, RN, Public Health; Dr. Jan B. King, M.D., Public Health; Dr. Jonathan Fielding, M.D., M.P.H., Director of Public Health; Lauren Talbott, Public Library; Robin S. Toma, Executive Director, Human Relations Commission; Kelly Fischer, Public Health; Vincent Holmes, CEO, Service Integration Branch; Sofia Gavia, Regional Park Superintendent, Parks and Recreation; Lorraine Martinez, Recreation Services Supervisor, Parks and Recreation; Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich; Russ Guiney, Director of Parks and Recreation; Frank Gonzales, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation; Heather Rigby, Arts Commission; Captain Steve Smith, Sheriff's Department; Charlotte Perkins, Recreation Services Supervisor, Parks and Recreation; Adam Davis, Arts Commission; Joe Mendoza, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation.

Mayor Michael D. Antonovich Honors National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) Award Winners!

Placerita Canyon Nature Center Environmental/Conservation Award



L-R: Russ Kimura, Regional Superintendent, Parks and Recreation; Frank Hoffman, Recreation Services Supervisor, Parks and Recreation; Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich; Hayden Sohm, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation; Norma E. Garcia, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation; John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation; Russ Guiney, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Lori Bennett Receives the Individual Professional Fellow Award



Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Anotonovich; Lori Bennett, Castaic Lake State Recreation Area Park Superintendent III, Parks and Recreation.

Mayor Michael D. Antonovich Honors National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) Award Winners!

Cerritos Park Wheelchair Basketball Program Special Awards: Removing Barriers Initiative



Front Row, L-R: Juan Garibay, Basketball Player; David Osuna, Basketball Player; Angel Baltazar, Regional Park Superintendent, Parks and Recreation; David Rodarte, Basketball Player; **2nd Row, L-R:** Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe; Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich; Kenneth Hopper, Assistant Regional Recreation Director; Parks and Recreation; John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation; **3rd Row, L-R:** Bryan Spragg, Recreations Services Manager, Parks and Recreation; Russ Guiney, Director of Parks and Recreation; Joe Mendoza, Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation.

Department Payroll Goes Paperless! Update on Payroll Statement Access For Parks Employees

The Department of Parks and Recreation is making another contribution to conserving paper by going “paperless.” Employees with direct deposit will now have their electronic paystubs available online electronically and can print them out in the workplace effective **September 30, 2011**. All employees can view their own paystubs online from county computers via the Pay Stub Viewer (PSV).

Employees can follow these four easy steps to view their pay statements online.

- 1) Go to any County computer to get access to the County’s intranet or Virtual Private Network (VPN) access into the County’s network, and go to <http://ess.lacounty.gov/webapp/ESSPSRV021/ESS>
- 2) Then enter “e” and your employee number, your password and click the login button.
- 3) Your online TIMEi sheet (Employee Timecard) will open and then click the tab located on the left side of the screen titled, “paystub viewer.”
- 4) Select “current” for your current electronic paystub or “history” for earlier paystubs. Note: pay statement “history” became available starting April 30, 2010, and is available for up to two years.

The electronic paystub provides all the same great information as your paper stub with some additional useful information not included on the familiar paper stub.

Below are some frequently asked questions about online pay statements:

WILL THIS REPLACE MY PAPER PAY STUB?

Yes. Paystubs have been available online since April 2011. All employees will have the convenience of looking up and printing out their paystubs at anytime from a county computer. Employees who have opted to receive a paper check (warrant) will not be impacted by this change, as they will continue to receive a paper warrant.

HOW SOON WILL MY PAYSTUB BE AVAILABLE TO VIEW ONLINE?

Paystubs will be available **two days before** payday, incase there are any issues of concern.

CAN I ACCESS MY ONLINE PAY STUB FROM HOME?

No. Access is only available through county computers to assure security and privacy.

IF I PRINT A COPY WILL IT LOOK LIKE AN OFFICAL PAYSTUB?

Yes, and is improved with additional information.

WILL MY BANK ACCOUNT OR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS APPEAR ON THE ELECTRONIC PAYSTUB?

No.

IF I WANT TO KNOW MORE...

Lagon to your TIMEi time collection site and open the tab, “paystub viewer”. Still have questions? Please contact your payroll contact for assistance. Also helpful is the following online guide:

<http://ecapsweb.co.la.ca.us/psv/documents/PayStubCrosswalk.pdf>

We hope your find the new online viewer useful and thanks for going “green”!

Ted Watkins Park Receives a Makeover

(Continued from page 1)

Thank you to Deputy Director Joe Mendoza and his staff in the South Agency including Regional Operations Manager Steve Duron; Facilities Operations Manager Dwight LaCroix; Regional Recreation Director Gary Leibsack; Assistant Regional Recreation Director Earner Carden; El Camino District Manager Melvin Pinkney; Park Recreation Services Leaders Don Johnson and Jennifer Vasquez; Parks and Recreation Project Manager Ben Johnson; Parks and Recreation Development Chief Jim Smith; Recreation Services Leader Yvette Maufus; Public Information Assistant Catarah Hampshire and all the staff at Ted Watkins Park for ensuring a flawless event!



Children have fun with face and arm painting along with other crafts.

Families commemorate renovations with hand prints in cement around the park's flag pole.

**Service Anniversaries
April 2011**

20 YEARS OF SERVICE

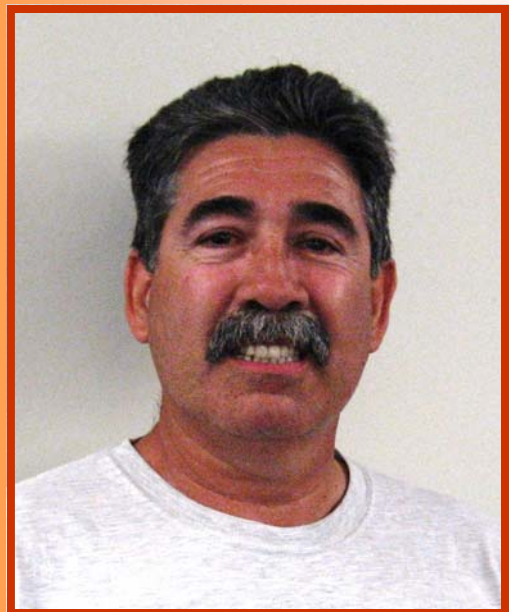


Ronald Cox
Plumbing Supervisor
Regional Facilities Agency

25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Albert Lopez
Grounds Maintenance Worker II
Regional Facilities Agency



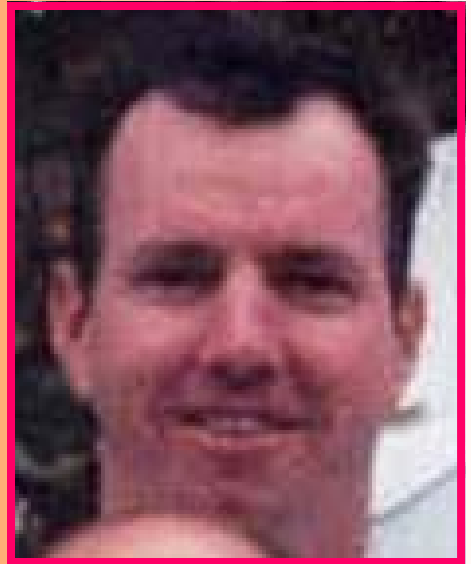
Michael Corral Sr.
Refrigeration Mechanic
Regional Facilities Agency

**Service Anniversaries
May 2011**

25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Nelie Mutuc-Agno
Administrative Assistant III
Administrative Services Agency



Kristopher Johnson
Senior Lake Lifeguard
Regional Facilities Agency



Ralph Searcy
Senior Lake Lifeguard
Regional Facilities Agency



Jeff Jones
Senior Lake Lifeguard
Regional Facilities Agency

**Service Anniversaries
May 2011**

30 YEARS OF SERVICE



James Hughes
Lake Aquatics Manager II
Regional Facilities Agency



Ilona Volkmann
Regional Operations Manager
Los Angeles County
Regional Park and Open Space District

35 YEARS OF SERVICE



Anthony Myles
Contract Monitor
Administrative Services Agency

40 YEARS OF SERVICE



William Hottran
Regional Grounds
Maintenance Supervisor
East Agency

**Service Anniversaries
June 2011**

20 YEARS OF SERVICE



Douglas Fryer
Head Transportation and
Equipment Manager
Regional Facilities Agency

25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Barbara Ridley
Administrative Services Manager I
Administrative Services Agency

30 YEARS OF SERVICE



Susie Hsi
Assistant Regional Recreation Director
East Agency

The Employee Awards Program

The Employee Awards Program is designed to recognize employees and teams who have made exceptional contributions to the Department and the residents of Los Angeles County. Our mission is to recognize excellence in the individuals, teams, and programs that help create community through people, parks, and programs. The Award Committee is comprised of three voting representatives from each of the Department's Agencies and a non-voting representative from the Executive Staff. Every month, the Award Committee receives nominations for each category: Permanent Employee, Temporary/Recurrent Employee, Park/Facility or Program. The Award Committee reads through the nominations and votes on the Department winner for the current month for each of the categories. If an employee is not selected for the Department Employee of the Month, the nominee then receives the Agency Employee of the Month award.

If you know any stellar achievers and programs and would like to nominate them for awards, please contact your agency coordinators:

East Agency: Lorraine Martinez at (626) 821-4619

North Agency: Jeff Dorst at (661) 257-4014

Regional Facilities: Chris Graham at (626) 334-1065

South Agency: Jerome Johnson at (323) 589-9613

Administrative Services/Planning & Development: Elizabeth Mendez at (213) 738-3040

To see the 2011 list of nominees and winners go to pages 13,14 and 15.

Where in the Department?



This charming cabin, sided with split logs to give the structure a rustic appearance, was originally built sometime during the early 20th Century. It is part of a complex of barns and cabins that have recently been refurbished at William S. Hart Park. The property originally belonged to the famous silent film cowboy actor and is where he built his retirement home. Mr. Hart left the property and its contents to the County in his will for the exclusive use as a public park.

Where in the Department? is a new feature by Ansley B. Davies, Associate Curator. Ansley has been locating and documenting all of the Department's historic resources. We hope this new feature will be a fun way for you to learn some interesting things about the department. Thank you to Ansley for making this column available and all of her hard work inventorying our historic assets.

NOMINEES AND WINNERS EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH JANUARY 2011

Permanent Employee of the Month:

Herbert Terrell, South Agency

Darlene Torrez, East Agency

Humberto Olmos, North Agency

David Jallo, Regional Facilities

Violet Daniel, Administrative Services/Planning & Development Agencies

Winner: Department Permanent Employee of the Month: Violet Daniel

Temporary/Recurrent Employee of the Month:

Jonathan Aguirre, South Agency

Anthony Nassih, East Agency

Brit'ne White, North Agency

Gregorio Hernandez, Regional Facilities

None, Administrative Services/Planning & Development Agencies

Winner: Department Temporary/Recurrent Employee of the Month: Brit'ne White

Park/Facility or Program of the Month:

Athens Park After School Enrichment Club Christmas Recreation Program, South Agency

Warehouse, East Agency

Loma Alta Park, North Agency

Placerita Canyon Nature Center, Regional Facilities

None, Administrative Services/Planning & Development Agencies

**Winner: Department Park/Facility or Program of the Month: Athens Park After School
Enrichment Club Christmas Recreation Program**

NOMINEES AND WINNERS EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH FEBRUARY 2011

Permanent Employee of the Month:

Antoinette Fields, South Agency

Erica Rascon, East Agency

Jorge Santos, North Agency

Joan Rupert, Regional Facilities

None, Administrative Services/Planning & Development Agencies

Winner: Department Permanent Employee of the Month: Antoinette Fields and Jorge Santos

Temporary/Recurrent Employee of the Month:

None, South Agency

Javier Altamirano, East Agency

Cristina Murillo, North Agency

Debbie Walt, Regional Facilities

None, Administrative Services/Planning & Development Agencies

Winner: Department Temporary/Recurrent Employee of the Month: Cristina Murillo

Park/Facility or Program of the Month:

Amigo Park, South Agency

Bassett Park, East Agency

Jackie Robinson Park, North Agency

William S. Hart Park/Museum, Regional Facilities

None, Administrative Services/Planning & Development Agencies

Winner: Department Park/Facility or Program of the Month: Bassett Park and William S. Hart Park/Museum

**NOMINEES AND WINNERS
EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH
MARCH 2011**

Permanent Employee of the Month:

Guillermo Pedroza, South Agency

Lucius Crenshaw, East Agency

Alejandro Miranda, North Agency

Larry Flores, Regional Facilities

Larry Lee, Administrative Services/Planning & Development Agencies

Winner: Department Permanent Employee of the Month: Larry Lee

Temporary/Recurrent Employee of the Month:

None, South Agency

Susana Diaz, East Agency

Nora Avanessian, North Agency

Max Lucero, Regional Facilities

None, Administrative Services/Planning & Development Agencies

Winner: Department Temporary/Recurrent Employee of the Month: Nora Avanessian

Park/Facility or Program of the Month:

Paint Section, South Agency

Construction Division, East Agency

Sorenson Park Basketball Court Resurfacing Team, North Agency

Tree Maintenance Crew, Regional Facilities

None, Administrative Services/Planning & Development Agencies

Winner: Department Park/Facility or Program of the Month: Tree Maintenance Crew

HIGH FIVE!

For Those Who Go Above and Beyond...

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation for your attendance and Department's participation at the 14th Annual "Remembering Our Veterans and Their Families: Past, Present and Future" event on May 28, 2011 at Arcadia County Park. I commend your staff for doing an outstanding job! I especially want to thank Melinda Mayoral and the staff that worked with her: Lorraine Martinez, Traci Anthony, Arshell Stanle, John Reed and Mark Reed. Their hard work, dedication and enthusiasm contributed to the success of our event. The park looked great, the set-up was perfect and the children's area was a big hit.

Again, thank you for your continued support. We look forward to working with you and your staff again next year on May 26, 2012.

Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich



Thanks to Norma J. Rios, Executive Secretary I, the East Agency was K-EARTH's Office of the Day! Antonio from the K-EARTH Morning Show serenaded the staff and Western Bagel provided bagels and coffee to all, for the great job the East Agency does and for its recognition on the radio.

Alba Ibarra
Public Information Assistant
East Agency



Mrs. Connie Douglas, we would like to express our gratitude to you and all your staff for the concrete pad that you commissioned for us. Our group is very appreciative and happy to use it for our weekend activities. We were featured in two newspapers showing us enjoying the pad and some of us entered an international tournament in San Jose and won! Thank you for the pads and for the wonderful and safe environment to enjoy it in!

Ms. Ing Shih
Rowland Heights

GIVE Someone a HIGH FIVE!

Do you know someone in our Department who deserves special recognition? Maybe you were on a tight deadline and that person helped you meet it. Maybe you were having a tough work day and that person helped you beat it. You know who those people are, the ones who go above and beyond. Help us recognize them. Email their name and a short paragraph of why they deserve a High Five! to iperius@parks.lacounty.gov and we'll do our best to include them in the High Five! column of The Green Scene.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"



**County of Los Angeles
Board of Supervisors**

Michael D. Antonovich
Mayor
Fifth District

Gloria Molina
First District

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

**Department of
Parks and Recreation**

Russ Guiney
Director

John Wicker
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Kaye Michelson
Special Assistant

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